

**MINUTES OF A JOINT MEETING OF THE  
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AND TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Cultural Arts Commission convened in a joint session with Torrance City Council at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 in the West Annex meeting room, Torrance City Hall.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Miranda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

**Cultural Arts Commission**

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Endo-Roberts, Korman, Miranda, Rische, Shwartz, and Chairperson Candioty.

Absent: None.

**City Council**

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Furey, Numark, Rhilinger, Sutherland, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Manager Giordano, City Clerk Herbers, City Treasurer Cortez, City Attorney Fellows, Assistant to City Manager Chaparyan, Community Services Director Jones, Management Associate Barthe-Jones, Cultural Services Manager Rappoport, Park Services Manager Carson, Senior Business Manager Minter, Cultural Services Senior Supervisor Bell, Secretary Collins, and others.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Korman seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairperson Candioty welcomed Councilmembers and expressed his appreciation for their continued support.

**6. PRESENTATION OF THE WILSON PARK AMPHITHEATRE PHASE 1 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

Chairperson Candioly introduced the item and welcomed Land Concern consultants Michael Imlay and Philip Stevens.

Mr. Stevens provided a slide presentation on proposed improvements for the Wilson Park Amphitheatre. He discussed existing conditions and presented proposed Phase 1 improvements: concrete and interlocking pavers for stage surface, central concrete portion and pavers around the perimeter, with the paver perimeter more than doubling the usable stage area and creating a "backstage" zone. He proposed that four of the existing columns be removed in preparation for Phase 2, that structural integrity of existing columns be assessed, to demolish existing concrete walkway in and around the performance zone, relocate electrical pedestal currently on stage, and to perform remedial grading as necessary. He presented concepts for Phase 2 that include adding side columns to create side stage "wings," adding decorative arms and frame atop columns, and installing peripheral lighting and related infrastructure.

Mayor Scotto received clarification from consultants that there would be space between the front and back wings to allow access to backstage.

In response to Councilmember Sutherland's inquiry, Mr. Stevens stated that they do not have a cost estimate for Phase 2 improvements yet.

At Councilmember Brewer's request, Mr. Stevens described plans for the back sound wall.

Consultants were receptive to Chairperson Candioly's suggestion to enhance the back wall with greenery, such as a vine trellis.

Mr. Imlay discussed the proposal to provide removable backdrops.

Mayor Scotto expressed interest in knowing the cost estimate for developing Phase 1 and 2 at the same time, adding that it would cost less to do both at one time.

Community Services Director Jones noted that in October 2011 the Parks and Recreation Commission identified some additional funding in the capital budget for Phase 2 improvements.

Commissioner Korman expressed concern that the pavers could be a safety hazard for dancers and was informed that the current footprint of the stage is 1,120 square feet.

In response to Mayor Scotto's inquiry, Mr. Stevens stated that the cost of making the stage area all cement would probably be the same but would impact Phase 2 improvements. He suggested that the consultants look at the possibility of extending the concrete to the central portion and keeping the backside with the paver format, adding that it would also be possible to provide a portable stage cover for dance competitions.

Mayor Scotto voiced his concern that the stage would lose its functionality if some groups are unable to use it. He stated that it would preferable to know what Phase 2 costs and receive tentative approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission before moving forward. He anticipated that, if both phases are developed, the facility could be rented every week and be a huge revenue source for the City.

Councilmember Barnett congratulated consultants on the concept and pointed out that if the project is phased, Phase 1 might be all that is accomplished because of the cost of continuing, noting that there might be cost efficiencies to complete both phases at the same time.

Councilmember Rhilinger requested that consultants also provide an estimate for a portable stage cover.

Councilmember Furey raised the possibility of using colored cement.

**7. ORALS**

Councilmember Sutherland commended the Commission for the great job it is doing.

**8. COUNCIL RECESS**

At 6:50 p.m., City Council recessed to City Council Chambers for the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**9. ADJOURMENT**

The Cultural Arts Commission adjourned the joint meeting and reconvened the continued regular meeting from February 27, 2012 to 7:00 p.m. at the West Annex meeting room.

Approved as Submitted April 16, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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